

Sheriff Troy Young Anderson County Sheriff

Troy Young has been with the Anderson County Sheriff's Office since 1991. He is a graduate of the Department of Criminal Justice Basic Training Class No. 148 and has more than 1,600 hours of in-service training. He also attended Eastern Kentucky University and Kentucky State University, majoring in criminal justice. In 1988, he started the DARE program in the Anderson County school system and continues to teach. Young has served on numerous boards and committees throughout his law enforcement career at the local, state and national level. He was awarded the DARE Lifetime Achievement Award for 2011. Young and his wife, Benita, have 25-year-old triplet sons, Myles (Natalie), Martin (Jessica) and Marcus.

WHY DID YOU ALTER YOUR CAREER PATH FROM DISPATCHING TO PURSUING LAW **ENFORCEMENT?**

I come from a law enforcement family and knew at an early age that was the career I

wanted to pursue. At the age of 15, I was hired as a part-time dispatcher at Lawrenceburg Police Department, where I worked weekends and filled in during the Anderson Co summer months. I continued to work there during high school and college until I was hired as a dispatcher for Kentucky State Police Post 12 in Frankfort. When I turned 21, I couldn't wait to leave the radio room and was hired as a patrolman

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you've been in law enforcement, it stays with you. Twenty years ago, I returned to law enforcement with the sheriff's office working investigations, then became chief deputy and was elected sheriff in 2005.

HOW DID YOUR NEW SHERIFF'S OFFICE COME ABOUT?

When I started with the sheriff's office 20 years ago, there were five of us, including office staff, who worked out of two small rooms in the courthouse. Several years ago, the county purchased buildings next to the courthouse and moved some of the offices including the sheriff's office into them. There are now 20 full- and part-time deputies working 24 hours a day out of an office that is approximately 1,200 square feet. Thanks to so many people, when our health department moved into its new building, the county was able to purchase the old building at a fraction of the cost of a new facility. We are now in the process of working on that 5,200 square-foot building. We still will be centrally located downtown with plenty of parking.

HOW DO YOU PROTECT YOUR COMMUNITY FROM IDENTITY THEFT?

We continually are staying up to date with the growing problem of identity theft. We are frequent guests at our senior citizen's center, giving them the latest tips on

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keeping their personal information secure and staying safe. We also work with local businesses to provide a business academy helping guard against fraud. This provides businesses the latest information concerning counterfeiting, check-writing scams and shoplifting, among others.

WHAT SINGLE WORD DO YOU THINK **BEST DESCRIBES YOUR DEPARTMENT. AND WHAT KEEPS YOU UNIFIED?**

Progressive — In 2005, the Anderson County Police Department (a two-man agency) was combined with the sheriff's office, which helped us provide 24/7 patrol. On- and off-duty weapons were standardized for deputies, including shotguns and patrol rifles. Through state and federal grants we are able to provide deputies an updated digital-radio system, bulletproof vests, mobile-data terminals, radars and in-car cameras. Everyone who works for the sheriff's office is an Anderson County resident. We are family oriented and a lot of our special projects are family based.

DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIAL PROJECTS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?

We have several projects of which we are proud.

- DARE Fishing Derby is held on freefishing weekend in June for kids and parents. The local lake is stocked with 800 pounds of catfish. This was our eighth year. The event is attended by 400 to 500 people each year.
- Project Safe Street was started several years ago. Candy, reflective trick-ortreat bags and glow sticks are handed out on the courthouse lawn one hour before trick-or-treat begins to help start a safe Halloween night.
- Rape, Aggression and Defense Training have already been incorporated into the high school curriculum and free courses are offered to women. We have two deputies trained as instructors.
- Kids Print ID provides digital identification cards to parents for their children.
- Anderson County Sheriff's Office Color Guard represents the office at several local events and trains hard to perform. We are proud that an agency our size is able to staff a color guard.
- Neighborhood Watch Program works with numerous neighborhoods in the county to create and maintain neighborhood watch programs. -



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to try another occupation. However, once